

## Message Text

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21

ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 INSE-00

SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05 VO-03

OMB-01 AID-05 /096 W

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R 110720Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL TABRIZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 131

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USUN NY 07

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL KHORRAMSHAHR

USCINCEUR, VAINGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TABRIZ 43

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, PINS, CVIS, CIRL ME/SA2-75 PG 8 QUESTION 2,

IR, IZ

SUBJECT: KURDISH REFUGEES IN IRAN

REF: (A) STATE 174054 B) GENEVA 5951

SUMMARY: KURDISH SITUATION IN IRAN REMAINS LARGELY  
UNCHANGED. FEW REFUGEES NOW RETURNING IRAQ AND THESE OFF-  
SET BY NEW ARRIVALS. A FEW HAVE BEEN RESETTLED BUT EFFORT  
SEEMS BADLY MANAGED AND APPEARS HALTED PENDING BETTER  
ORGANIZATION. KURDS CLAIM SOME 23 KURDS EXECUTED BY  
IRAQIS DURING PERIOD APRIL-MAY 1975 AND PROVIDED LIST OF  
NAMES, DATES, AND PLACES. IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE, ON BASIS  
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DEBRIEFING NEW ARRIVALS, PAINTS PICTURE LESS VIOLENT BUT  
STILL GRIM. KURDS DISCOUNT STORIES OF SYRIA ARMING OR  
HELPING KURDS BUT DO SAY JALAL TALABANI NOW IN DAMASCUS  
AND ATTEMPTING ENLARGE FOLLOWING. CAN FIND NO EVIDENCE

ARMED KURDS BEING SUPPORTED, TRAINED OR RETAINED BY  
IRANIANS AND I REMAIN EXTREMELY SKEPTICAL ABOUT THIS  
STORY. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING RAPID TRIP TO REZAIYEH AUG. 3-4 I TALKED WITH  
IDRIS BARZANI AND MEMBER KDP CENTRAL COMMITTEE, DIRECTOR  
RED LION AND SUN (IRANIAN RED CROSS) AND PROVINCIAL  
INTELLIGENCE CHIEF (SAVAK). ALL AGREE SITUATION OF  
REFUGEES LARGELY UNCHANGED ALTHOUGH KURDS STILL GRUMBLING  
ABOUT GRADUAL DETERIORATION OF CAMP CONDITIONS SINCE  
HEYDAY OF BROTHERLY LOVE DURING WAR. BORDER TECHNICALLY  
CLOSED BOTH WAYS BUT RETURN TO IRAQ STILL POSSIBLE, AL-  
THOUGH FEW ARE GOING BACK. ALL SOURCES AGREE SOME 3000  
NEW REFUGEES HAVE ARRIVED DURING LAST MONTH. I WOULD  
GUESS TOTAL REFUGEES IN IRAN STILL NUMBER AROUND 90,000  
OR A FEW MORE.

2. SEVERAL HUNDRED REFUGEES HAVE BEEN MOVED TO AREAS OF  
KARAJ (NEAR TEHRAN), KERMEN, AND SHIRAZ. KURDS PROTEST  
BITTERLY THAT 600 SENT TO SHIRAZ AREA WERE NOT GIVEN  
ADEQUATE TENTS AND WATER SEVERAL WEEKS AFTER ARRIVAL AND  
ARE BEING ASKED TO WORK IN FIELDS FOR LESS THAN GOING  
WAGE. IRANIAN OFFICIALS IN REZAIYEH DECLINED KNOWLEDGE OF  
AFFAIRS IN SHIRAZ BUT DIRECTOR RED LION STATED THAT FUTHER  
RESETTLEMENT SUSPENDED PENDING BETTER ORGANIZATION BY MIN  
LABOR. SAVAK CHIEF NOTED RESETTLEMENT VERY DIFFICULT DUE  
CULTURAL DIFFERENCES AND KURDISH DESIRE REMAIN BORDER  
AREAS WHICH, SECURITY ASIDE, CANNOT ABSORB THIS NUMBER  
PEOPLE.

3. RE IMMIGRATION US KURDS NOTED THAT LIST PROVIDED GOI  
AND UNHCR (REFTEL B) NOW OUT OF DATE. LIST COMPILED  
APRIL/MAY AND SINCE THEN ABOUT 150 OF THOSE PEOPLE HAVE  
LEFT OR ARE ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.  
KURDS OFFERED PREPARE NEW LIST BASED ON US GUIDELINES IF  
THESE FORTHCOMING BUT INDICATED THAT WOULD NOT, RPT NOT,  
MENTION POSSIBILITY IMMIGRATION TO US AT THIS TIME SO AS  
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NOT TO AROUSE FALSE HOPES OR CREATE SNOWBALLING EFFORT. I  
MADE NO, RPT NO, COMMITMENTS OR STATEMENT ON POSSIBILITY  
OF IMMIGRATION BUT DID SUMMARIZE PROBABLE DIFFICULTIES AND  
DELAYS INVOLVED.

4. ON CONDITIONS IN IRAQ IDRIS BARZANI FURNISHED LIST  
(MENTIONED TABRIZ 32) OF 233 KURDS CLAIMED EXECUTED BY  
IRAQIS IN FIRST TWO MONTHS AFTER CEASEFIRE. LIST INCLUDED  
SOME NAMES, DATES, AND PLACES. AM POUCHING LIST TEHRAN  
FOR ONWARD DISTRIBUTION. SAVAK CHIEF, ON BASIS DEBRIEFING  
NEWLY ARRIVED REFUGEES, DID NOT FEEL THAT ANY ORGANIZED  
EXECUTIONS WERE NOW OCCURRING IN IRAQ BUT DID CLAIM THERE  
WERE NUMEROUS SHOOTINGS, MURDERS, AND BEATINGS AS KURDS

WHO HAD FOUGHT WITH IRAQIS SETTLED OLD SCORES AND TRIBAL BLOOD FEUDS.

5. KURDS CLAIMED THERE PRACTICALLY NO SERIOUS FIGHTING NOW GOING ON IN IRAQ. THEY DENIED THAT SYRIANS HAD EVER HELPED THEM OR WERE DOING SO NOW. THEY DID STATE THAT SOME KURDS HAD FLED TO SYRIA AND BEEN ALLOWED ENTER BUT THAT THEIR CARE AND SUPPORT BEING UNDERTAKEN BY SYRIAN KURDS. ACCORDING THEIR INFORMATION JALAL TALABANI NOW IN DAMASCUS AND ATTEMPTING RECRUIT FOLLOWING THERE AND AMONG KURDISH STUDENTS NOW IN EUROPE. KURDS CLAIM THAT THEIR INTELLIGENCE NETWORK IN IRAQ STILL 95 PERCENT IN BEING BUT UNDER ORDERS STAY QUIET FOR FEAR THAT REPORTS INTERCEPTED BY IRANIANS MIGHT BE TURNED OVER TO IRAQIS. RE THIS FEAR I HAVE NO EVIDENCE EITHER WAY.

6. CONTINUING QUESTIONING OF KURDISH SOURCES, INCLUDING IDRIS BARZANI, AND IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE AND MILITARY CONTACTS HAVE PRODUCED NO, RPT NO, EVIDENCE OF ANY KURDS BEING ARMED, RETAINED OR TRAINED BY IRANIANS. I AM EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL THERE ANY TRUTH TO THESE STORIES.  
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## Message Attributes

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